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BOX: PATENT APPLICATION

H-828-02

11000 U.S. PTO
09/978567



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: K. MABUCHI ~~et al~~
Serial No. 09/378,768
Filed: August 23, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1741
Examiner: E. Smith-Hicks ~~Phas ge~~
For: A STEEL STRIP DESCALING APPARATUS
AND A STEEL STRIP MANUFACTURING
APPARATUS USING THE DESCALING
APPARATUS

REQUEST FOR DIVISIONAL APPLICATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Box: Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a request for filing a divisional application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/378,768, filed on August 23, 1999, entitled A STEEL STRIP DESCALING APPARATUS AND A STEEL STRIP MANUFACTURING APPARATUS USING THE DESCALING APPARATUS, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.
2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

1130 U.S. PTO
10/18/01
09978567-101801

**CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION
LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW
PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Basic Fee									\$ 740.00
Total Claims	2	-	20	=	0	x	22	=	
Independent Claims	1	-	3	=	0	x	82	=	
Total Filing Fee									\$ 740.00

3. A check including the amount of \$740.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. Cancel claims 1-12 before calculating the Filing Fee.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. A duplicate copy of this Request is enclosed for this purpose.

6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

A' -- This is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/378,768 filed August 23, 1999. --.

7. New drawings are enclosed, six (6) sheets, Figs. 1-7.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293
Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663
Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846
Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

Ther is a change in the correspondence addr ss.

Address all future correspondence to:

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1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370
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(703) 684-1120.



Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.

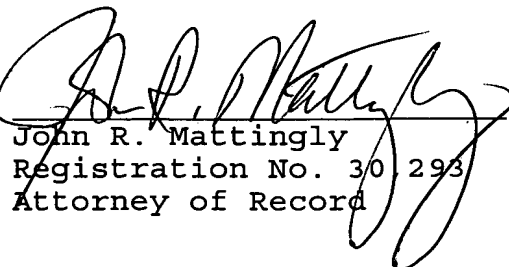
9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

10. Priority of the following Japanese patent applications is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 10-237231, filed August 24, 1998.

The certified priority document has been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present divisional application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/378,768, as originally filed on August 23, 1999.


John R. Mattingly
Registration No. 30,293
Attorney of Record

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR
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Date: October 18, 2001